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CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD

A FLORA OF NEVADA. NO. 28.

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AMARYLLIDACEAE OF NEVADA

by

C. H. Muller

April 1, 1941.

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Issued by

The Division of Plant Exploration and Introduction,  
Bureau of Plant Industry,  
U. S. Department of Agriculture,  
Washington, D. C.

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Work Projects Administration of Nevada  
Projects, O. P. 65-2-04-13, W. P. 658;  
O. P. 165-2-04-21, W. P. 752

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Collaborator

University of Nevada.

Address all queries concerning this publication to the Division  
of Plant Exploration and Introduction, Bureau of Plant Industry,  
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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

1950

1951

1952

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY  
1953

1954

1955

1956

1957

## AMARYLLIDACEAE OF NEVADA

By C. H. Muller

Acaulescent or short-stemmed perennial plants with bulbs, corms, or woody caudices. Leaves usually with sheathing bases and (in our species) fleshy and armed with spiny teeth. Inflorescence scapose, racemose or paniculate. Flowers perfect; the undifferentiated perianth of 6 lobes united into a tube below; ovary inferior, 3-celled; styles united; fruit a 3-celled capsule; seeds numerous.

One genus in our range.

## 1. AGAVE L. Agave or Century Plant.

Acaulescent, with a thick fleshy crown; leaves forming a rosette, spine-tipped as well as armed along the margins.

One species in our range.

1. AGAVE UTAHENSIS Engelm. in King, Geol. Expl. 40th Par. 5: 497.  
1871.

A. Haynaldi var. utahensis Terrac., Primo Contr. Mono.

Agave 28. 1885.

Leaves 15 to 30 cm. long, 2 to 5 cm. broad, linear-lanceolate, gradually but markedly broadened at the sheathing base,

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

By J. H. Smith

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am not a member of the Communist Party of the United States of America, nor have I ever been a member of the same, nor have I ever been in contact with any person who is a member of the Communist Party of the United States of America, nor have I ever been in contact with any person who is known to be a member of the Communist Party of the United States of America.

Witness my hand and seal this 1st day of June, 1957.

J. H. SMITH, Mayor of Chicago, Ill.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of June, 1957, at Chicago, Illinois.

Notary Public for the State of Illinois, My Comm. Expires 12/31/57.

1957.

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marginal spines 1 to 2 cm. apart, not connected by a horny margin, straw-colored or brown, toward the leaf base only 1 or 2 mm. long, toward the apex as much as 3 mm. long and usually contorted, terminal spine 2 to 3.5 cm. long, gray or brown. Flower stalk 1.5 to 2.5 m. tall, the inflorescence a strict panicle with several dozen branches 1 to 2 or even 7 cm. long and about 1.5 mm. thick, each 2- to usually 4- or sometimes 7-flowered and subtended basally by a tapering linear bract about 10 cm. long, the bracts fragmenting at anthesis. Flowers about 15 mm. long (exclusive of the ovary), the perianth tube 4 or 5 mm. long and 2 mm. or less in diameter, the free lobes and throat about 10 mm. long and abruptly flaring to about 7 mm. in diameter, each lobe tipped with a pubescent mucro.

Southern Nevada: Clark and Lincoln Counties (commonly between 4,000 and 7,000 feet altitude); Utah to Arizona and California.

Agave utahensis is a member of the subgenus Littaea (Tagliab.) Baker, section Pericamptagave Berger. Four other species of this subgenus occur in the United States, and the remaining numerous forms are confined to Mexico and Guatemala. Of the species in the United States, one is the well known "lechuguilla," A. lophantha Schiede var. Poselgeri (Salm) Berger (A. lechuguilla Torr.), from which the fiber ixtli is extracted. The remainder are more or less similar to A. utahensis.

